

7-28-1954

## Information provided by William Corrigan and Arthur Petersilge about Dr. Lester Hoversten as a potential suspect

James McArthur  
*Cleveland Police Department*

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POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CLEVELAND, OHIO  
DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

DIST. 3 ZONE DB

July 28, 1954 19

EXAMINED BY \_\_\_\_\_ RANK \_\_\_\_\_ 19

FROM Jas. McArthur, Dep. Inspt. Com. D.B TO Frank W. Story, Chief of Police

SUBJECT Re theories advance by attorneys Corrigan and Petersilge  
in Sheppard case.

COPIES TO Captain Kerr ~ File.

Sir:

At about 9.40 A.M. this date, on call from Chief Frank W. Story, reported to his office and found Attorneys William Corrigan and Arthur Petersilge, representing the Sheppard family.

After a lengthy discourse as to why they did not believe Sam Sheppard was guilty of this crime, they gave the following information on theories of theirs.

The first was that Dr. Hoverstein could very well be the assailant. They said this subject has a reputation for continually getting in trouble and being very forward with the female sex. He is reported to have gotten into trouble at the Los Angeles General Hospital early in 1952, due to some professional conduct and was discharged from this hospital and then wrote to Dr. Sam inquiring about an opening at Bay View Hospital. He was then employed at Bay View from July 15th 1952 to July 31, 1953, when he received a fellowship in surgery at Bay View. These fellowships generally last for one year, but on this occasion he commenced it on August 1, 1953 and eventually left October 15, 1953, due to difficulties at the Hospital.

It is reported that Dr. Sheppard Senior had learned that Hoverstein had met a widow at a Bay Village Church, and he rushed this widow at once and it appeared as though he was serious with her to the extent that she gave a dinner for him, which was attended by other doctors of the Hospital.

A short time later while this widows' parents were absent Hoverstein had intercourse with the widow, and upon the return of the parents, they determined that the toilet was blocked, and on having it cleared up, discovered among other things a cundrum, and immediately accused their daughter, the widow of having immoral relations with Hoverstein, and Hoverstein was then advised by the parents to stay away.

In an effort to straighten this matter out, Hoverstein went to Dr. Steve Sheppard and told him he was in a jam and needed help, and requested Dr. Steve to state that Hoverstein had a kidney condition which necessitated wearing a cundrum, so as not to soil his clothes, this Dr. Steve refused to do. After a great deal of ribbing by other persons at the Hospital, Dr. Hoverstein left, and went to work in some Hospital in Dayton, from where he was also kicked out.

**STATE'S  
EXHIBIT**

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## POLICE DEPARTMENT

CLEVELAND, OHIO

## DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

DIST. 3 ZONE DB

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FROM \_\_\_\_\_

TO \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

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Since his leaving Bay View, it was learned that Dr. Hoverstein had made many passes on female employees. Also while he was employed by Bay View Hospital, he had occasion at one time to be assigned to the Fairview Clinic, operated by the Sheppards, and at this place they have sleeping rooms for the interns and Dr. Steve learned that Hoverstein was taking females into those rooms at night and had a "come-off" with Hoverstein about same.

A further report that Hoverstein is supposed to have made "passes" at Marilyn while in California, but Marilyn shook off all these advances.

After he had been discharged in Dayton Hospital, he wrote Dr. Sam relative to coming to Cleveland for a short time, before returning to California and that Dr. Sam and Marilyn had quite a discussion on this matter, Marilyn being against it and Sam being for it, due to their being former school-mates. Marilyn eventually agreeing that it would be O.K. and Sam wrote Hoverstein to that effect.

They stated he had previously lived at Sam's home for three or four months, when he first came to Bay View Hospital. He is reported to have arrived this last time on July 1, and took up lodging at Sam's home, and was given a bed usually occupied by Sam and Marilyn. They believe he may have made "passes" at Marilyn, on the second and third of July, as Dr. Sam had early morning operations on both of these days, and Hoverstein had requested permission to look in on the operations, but would never show up until after 10.00 A.M., giving him considerable time around the home alone with Marilyn,

They claim he left sometime Saturday afternoon, to visit Dr. Stevenson at Kent, Ohio, and they believe that due to the fact that Dr. Stevenson is reported to be deaf, that he could have very readily left the Stevenson home, drive to Bay Village and commit the act and then drive back to Kent, without any one knowing about same.

They have since learned that Hoverstein has been passing derogatory remarks about the Bay Village Hospital and the Sheppards in general. These remarks are supposed to have been repeated to a Dorothy Andrews, President of the Women's Guild of Bay View Hospital and also Mr. and Mrs. Paul Roach, Mrs. Roach belonging to the Women's Guild of the Hospital.

This is one of the theories advanced by these attorneys, and although Hoverstein has been checked out by two different investigating agencies, it is requested that a more thorough check of the Stevenson residence be made.



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